

EDWARD R. ROYCE, CALIFORNIA
CHAIRMAN

AMY PORTER
CHIEF OF STAFF

THOMAS SHEEHY
STAFF DIRECTOR



ELIOT L. ENGEL, NEW YORK
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER

JASON STEINBAUM
DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

One Hundred Fifteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.foreignaffairs.house.gov

July 25, 2018

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

We were deeply disturbed by the Administration's court filing on Monday stating that as many as 463 parents whose children were forcibly separated from them by President Trump are no longer in the United States. To separate these children from their parents is disgusting and unconscionable. To then deport the parents from our country is a sign of just how far this Administration will go to demonstrate its hatred and vitriol towards immigrants. We urge you to instruct our embassies in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras to do everything in their power to ensure the immediate reunification of these families.

On June 22nd, we introduced the Central America Family Protection and Reunification Act (H.R. 6193) which requires the State Department – through our embassies in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala — to prioritize supporting governments and citizens of these countries to facilitate immediate family reunification. Fortunately, you do not need our legislation to reunite the families the President has torn apart. The Trump Administration can take the actions laid out in our legislation immediately on its own. We urge you to do just this.

At a House Foreign Affairs Committee on July 11th, members pressed the State Department on what you were doing abroad to help reunify families that had been affected by the Trump Administration's barbaric family-separation policy. The answer was deafening silence. Knowing that as many as 463 parents of migrant children have been deported, it is essential that you

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
July 25, 2018
Page Two

instruct our embassies in the Northern Triangle to immediately get to work in facilitating family reunification.

Time is of the essence in reunifying the families that President Trump has torn apart. While the State Department did not cause this mess, it's up to every part of the executive branch to reunite families as the courts have demanded. We look forward to hearing from you on the immediate actions you will take to resolve this urgent issue.

Sincerely,



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Ranking Member
Committee on Foreign Affairs



ALBIO SIRES
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere



NORMA J. TORRES
Co-Chair
Central America Caucus



ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
Member of Congress



JOAQUIN CASTRO
Member of Congress